

Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-14 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-14

RSC-01 AGR-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-02

H-03 INR-10 INT-08 L-03 LAB-06 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04

AID-20 CIEP-02 SS-20 STR-08 TAR-02 TRSE-00 USIA-15

PRS-01 SP-03 FEA-02 OMB-01 SWF-02 SAM-01 DRC-01 /246 W

----- 043943

R 161315Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6700

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD ECON EG

SUBJ: GOE REQUEST FOR SUPPORT IN UPCOMING GATT

CONSIDERATION OF EGYPT-EC AGREEMENT

REF: CAIRO 3148; STATE 100797

1. GOE ACTING MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE MAHMOUD ABDL AL BARI
HAMZA ASKED EMBASSY COMMERCIAL OFF AND ECON OFF TO CALL ON
HIM MAY 15 SO THAT HE COULD PRESENT GOE REQUEST THAT THE US
LOOK FAVORABLY UPON FORTHCOMING GATT REVIEW OF THE EGYPTIAN-
EC AGREEMENT. SAME REQUEST MADE BY FOREIGN MINISTRY UNDER-
SECRETARY RIAD TO AMBASSADOR MAY 14. SEE CAIRO REFTEL). HAMZA
EXPRESSED BELIEF THAT IN PRESENT GOOD ATMOSPHERE BETWEEN US
AND EGYPT USG COULD "AT LEAST MODERATE ITS USUAL

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OPPOSITION TO SUCH AGREEMENTS".

2. ACCORDING TO HAMZA THE GOE IS LOOKING TO THIS AGREEMENT WITH THE EC TO STIMULATE ITS TRADITIONAL EXPORTS TO EUROPE. SPECIFICALLY THE COMMODITIES HE MENTIONED WERE CITRUS FRUIT. WATERMELON, RICE, DRIED FRUIT, MEDICINAL HERBS, AND COTTON YARDAGE.

3. COMMENT: WHEN QUESTIONED ABOUT SPECIFIC BENEFIT WHICH MIGHT ACCRUE TO EGYPT AS RESULT THIS AGREEMENT, HAMZA WAS VAGUE. WHILE EGYPTIAN EXPORTS TO EUROPE HAVE BEEN INCREASING, IT SEEMS UNLIKELY THAT THIS AGREEMENT WILL DO ANYTHING SPECTACULAR. PROBABLY MORE SIGNIFICANT IS THE POLITICAL ASPECT OF HAVING SUCH AN AGREEMENT WHICH ENHANCE EGYPT'S OVERALL POSITION WITH THE REST OF ITS MEDITERRANEAN NEIGHBORS.

4. SINCE ABOVE DRAFTED, STATE 100797 RECEIVED. AMBASSADOR HAS PASSED INFO TO MFA UNDERSECRETARY MOHAMMAD RIAD WHO EXPRESSED DISAPPOINTMENT, BUT NOTED OUR ABILITY TO ACCEPT WP REPORT THAT GATT COMPATIBILITY CANNOT BE ESTABLISHED AT THIS TIME IS "SLIGHTLY HELPFUL". EMBOFF WILL PASS ON THE FOREIGN TRADE MINISTRY SAME INFORMATION.
EILTS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TRADE AGREEMENTS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 MAY 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15 APR 2002 by kellew0>; APPROVED <25 JUL 2002 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
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Subject: GOE REQUEST FOR SUPPORT IN UPCOMING GATT CONSIDERATION OF EGYPT-EC AGREEMENT
TAGS: ETRD, ECON, EG, US, GATT
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